WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method of recording and reproducing information in which a recording area of a recording medium is physically divided into small pages and is also partitioned into physical blocks each having a plurality of the pages so that information recorded in the

5   page is erased in units of each block containing the page, the method comprising a step of:

upon allocation to the block of a specific area where information is frequently changed, allocating the specific area to the page or pages in the block and disabling remaining pages in the same block as where the specific area is allocated although the

10   remaining pages are unused.

2.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein the specific area is an area for managing data recorded in the recording medium.

3.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein the page is provided with an area for recording area management information

15   including information indicating that the specific area has been allocated, information indicating the disablement of the page although unused, information indicating an unused area, and information indicating an ordinary recording area.

4.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 2, wherein the page is provided with an area for recording area management information

20   including information indicating that the specific area has been allocated, information indicating the disablement of the page although unused, information indicating an unused area, and information indicating an ordinary recording area.

5.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 2,

25   further comprising steps of:

upon recording of information into the recording medium,

allocating the block being unused to logical space and recording information into the block;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;

recording the modified data management area into another unused block in the recording medium; and

5   erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the block unused.

6.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 3, further comprising steps of:

upon recording of information into the recording medium,

10   allocating the block being unused to logical space and recording information into the block;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;

recording the modified data management area into another unused block in the

15   recording medium; and

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the block unused.

7.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 4,

20   further comprising steps of:

upon recording of information into the recording medium,

allocating the block being unused to logical space and recording information into the block;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording

25   medium;

recording the modified data management area into another unused block in the recording medium; and

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the block unused.

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8.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 2, further comprising steps of:

upon erasing of information in the recording medium,

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording
medium;

recording the modified data management area into the block being unused in the recording medium;

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the block unused; and

erasing the information to be deleted, and turning the block where the information has resided, into the block unused.

9.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 3, further comprising steps of:

upon erasing of information in the recording medium,

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;

recording the modified data management area into the block being unused in the recording medium;

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the block unused; and

erasing the information to be deleted, and turning the block where the information has resided, into the block unused.

10.   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 4, further comprising steps of:

upon erasing of information in the recording medium,

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;

recording the modified data management area into the block being unused in the recording medium;

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the block unused; and

erasing the information to be deleted, and turning the block where the information has resided, into the block unused.

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